

ADMINISTRATIVE MESSAGE

ROUTINE

R 122009Z JUN 01 ZYB PSN 215810I17

FM COMNAVREG MIDLANT NORFOLK VA//NOSC//

TO AIG 9987

AIG 106

INFO CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA//N46//
COMNAVAIRLANT NORFOLK VA//JJJ//
COMNAVSURFLANT NORFOLK VA//JJJ//
COMSUBLANT NORFOLK VA//JJJ//
COMSCLANT NORFOLK VA//JJJ//
COMSCLANT NORFOLK VA//JJJ//
COMNAVREG SE JACKSONVILLE FL//JJ//
COMNAVREG NE GROTON CT//JJJ//

UNCLAS //N05090//

MSGID/GENADMIN//

SUBJ/OIL SPILLS//

REF/A/DOC/OPNAVINST 5090.1B//

REF/B/DOC/COMNAVREGMIDLANT/SOPA(ADMIN)HR/-/INST/5400.1//
POC/MAUREEN CONNORS/REG ENVIRN GROUP/-/TEL:757-444-3009 EXT 385//

RMKS/1. AN EFFECTIVE OIL SPILL PREVENTION PROGRAM REQUIRES THAT PERIODIC REVIEW OF OIL SPILL PROCEDURES BE CONDUCTED, INCLUDING A REVIEW OF PROCEDURES TO EFFECTIVELY RESPOND TO AN INCIDENT. REQUEST ALCON REVIEW LOCAL RESPONSE PROCEDURES, AND REVISE AS NECESSARY BASED ON THE GUIDANCE PROVIDED BELOW.

2. PREVENTION - PERIODICALLY, NAVY OPERATORS, POLICY MAKERS, RESPONDERS, AND TECHNICAL PERSONNEL MEET TO EXAMINE ROOT CAUSE DATA AND DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT SPILL PREVENTION OPPORTUNITIES. FOCUS AREAS INCLUDE VESSEL DESIGN, SYSTEM OPERATION, TRAINING AND AWARENESS OF SHIPBOARD PERSONNEL, MAINTENANCE ISSUES/MATERIAL CONDITION OF SYSTEMS, CONTROL AND ALARM SYSTEMS. PROPER MANAGEMENT OF LIMITED MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, AND UPGRADE FUNDS REQUIRES ACCURATE DATA REGARDING SYSTEM WEAKNESSES. LINES 6 AND 7 ON THE SPILL REPORT MESSAGE PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY TO TELL THE PROPER AUTHORITIES WHICH SYSTEMS, PRACTICES, AND TRAINING ARE NOT FUNCTIONING AS DESIGNED.

3. REPORTING - THERE HAVE BEEN INCONSISTENCIES ACROSS THE NAVY REGARDING SPILL REPORTING. IT IS NAVY POLICY THAT ALL SPILLS BE REPORTED, INCLUDING SPILLS TO PAVEMENT. THE ONLY EXCEPTION IS FOR SPILLS FROM POV ACCIDENTS WHICH DO NOT REACH SURFACE WATERS OR STORM DRAINS. EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, ALL OIL AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE SPILLS OF ANY QUANTITY ARE TO BE REPORTED TO THE SHORE STATION AND BY NAVY MESSAGE PER REF A. IN ADDITION, ANY VESSEL OR FACILITY RECEIVING REGULATORY SCRUTINY REGARDING A SUSPECTED DISCHARGE SHALL

IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THEIR HOST SHORE ACTIVITY AND NAVY ON-SCENE COORDINATOR (NOSC). IF AT A NON-NAVY PORT, VESSELS ARE TO CONTACT THE COGNIZANT NOSC. COMNAVREG MIDLANT IS THE RESPONSIBLE NOSC FOR THE STATES OF PA, MD, DE, WV, VA, AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA. NOSC REPRESENTATIVES CAN BE CONTACTED VIA TELEPHONE AT (757) 444-3009 (EXT 385/369), CELL PHONE (757) 288-4099/4098 (24 HRS/DAY), OR PAGER (888) 958-4322/7882 (24 HRS/DAY). REF A DESIGNATES THE NOSC AS THE INCIDENT COMMANDER FOR SPILLS BEYOND THE CAPABILITY OF THE FACILITY INCIDENT COMMANDER (FIC). ONCE A FACILITY DETERMINES THAT NOSC ASSISTANCE IS REQUIRED, THE NOSC SHOULD BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY.

4. NAVY SPILL MESSAGE - THE OIL AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE INCIDENT REPORTING PROCESS THAT THE NAVY EMPLOYS IS A SOURCE OF PROTECTION, PROVIDING DOCUMENTATION THAT THE NAVY IS COMPLYING WITH THE CLEAN WATER ACT AND ACTING WITH DILIGENCE TO RESPOND TO SPILLS. A NAVY SPILL MESSAGE SHOULD BE GENERATED IN A TIMELY MANNER, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ALL OF THE PERTINENT FACTS MAY NOT BE KNOWN AT THE TIME OF DISCOVERY. FOLLOW UP WITH A SITREP WHEN MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE. WHEN REPORTING A SHEEN SIGHTING WHEN THE SOURCE OF THE OIL IS UNKNOWN, THE MESSAGE SHOULD NOT SPECULATE AS TO THE SOURCE OF THE DISCHARGE, AND SHOULD CLEARLY STATE THAT A RESPONSIBLE PARTY CANNOT BE IDENTIFIED FROM THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT THE TIME.

SUBJECT LINE SHOULD READ "OIL SPILL REPORT - SHEEN SIGHTING". THERE ARE SEVERAL VERSIONS OF THE NAVY OIL SPILL MESSAGE AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE RELEASE MESSAGE CURRENTLY BEING USED - USE THE MOST CURRENT VERSION (CONTAINING 20 LINES) FOUND IN REF A.

5. UPDATED ADDEES - TO FACILITATE SPILL INFORMATION DISSEMINATION, ENSURE THAT THE APPROPRIATE COAST GUARD MARINE SAFETY OFFICE (MSO) IS AN INFO ADDEE TO OIL SPILL OR HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE RELEASE MESSAGES. MSO HAMPTON ROADS AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY (COGARD MSO HAMPTON ROADS//JJJ//) INCLUDES THE ENTIRE STATE OF VA AND THE OCEAN SIDE OF //

THE MD EASTERN SHORE. MSO BALTIMORE (COGARD MSO BALTIMORE//JJJ//) AOR INCLUDES THE ENTIRE STATE OF MD EXCEPT FOR THE OCEAN SIDE OF THE MD EASTERN SHORE. MSO PHILADELPHIA (COGARD MSO PHILADELPHIA//JJJ//) AOR INCLUDES THE EASTERN HALF OF PA AND DE. ENSURE THAT SPILL MESSAGES ARE ADDRESSED TO COMNAVREG MIDLANT NORFOLK VA//NOSC// AND PWC NORFOLK VA//90//.

6. RESPONSE, COMMAND AND CONTROL - IT IS NAVY POLICY THAT THE NAVY RETAIN COMMAND AND CONTROL OVER ALL NAVY OIL SPILL INCIDENTS. SHIPS BERTHED AT PRIVATE SHIPYARDS MAY HAVE LIMITED CAPABILITY TO MOUNT A RESPONSE. IT IS THAT SHIP'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTACT THE NOSC ANY TIME ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED FOR ANY ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY. SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT OPERATORS ARE ALSO REMINDED THAT THESE INCIDENTS ARE HIGH VISIBILITY ISSUES, WITH SIGNIFICANT POTENTIAL FOR NEGATIVE IMPACTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT, READINESS, SCARCE FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND NAVY PUBLIC IMAGE. ALL DUE CARE AND RESPECT SHOULD BE EXERCISED WHEN DEALING WITH THE CONCERNED PUBLIC AND NON-NAVY OFFICIALS. FOR SHIPS IN THE HAMPTON ROADS AREA, REF B GIVES ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION, AND IS AVAILABLE ON THE COMNAVREG MIDLANT WEB SITE AT WWW.CNRMA.NAVY.MIL.

7. SHORE ACTIVITIES - ALL SHORE ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE AWARE OF

INCREASED PUBLIC SCRUTINY REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS AND THE LIMITATIONS OF NAVY SHIPS TO RESPOND TO AN OIL OR HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE INCIDENT. WHEN A SPILL OCCURS, SHORESIDE COMMANDERS ARE TO MAKE ALL REASONABLE EFFORTS TO SUPPORT NAVAL VESSELS IN THE VICINITY OF THE SHORE ACTIVITY, WHETHER OR NOT THE SHORE ACTIVITY IS PROVIDING HOST SERVICES. INFORMATION REGARDING SUPPORT PROVIDED AND ACTIVITY POINTS OF CONTACT ARE TO BE FORWARDED TO THE COGNIZANT NOSC AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE.

8. PLANNING - REF A REQUIRES NOSCS TO CONDUCT A THOROUGH ANNUAL RESPONSE PLAN REVIEW FOR ALL FACILITIES. FOR SHORE STATIONS, PROVIDE COPIES OF OPA 90 FACILITY RESPONSE PLAN OR OTHER SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN TO THE NOSC FOR REVIEW. REF A ALSO REQUIRES THAT NOSCS COORDINATE SPILL EXERCISES AND DRILLS WITH FACILITIES UNDER THEIR COGNIZANCE. INFORM THE NOSC OF ANY UPCOMING DRILLS AND INCORPORATE THE NOSC INTO ALL EXERCISE PLANNING. SHORE FACILITIES SHOULD ALSO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PARTICIPATE IN THEIR LOCAL AREA COMMITTEES TO MAINTAIN EFFECTIVE LIAISON WITH FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL OFFICIALS AND PRIVATE INDUSTRY.

9. FOR COMSCLANT: REQUEST YOU DISTRIBUTE TO MSC SHIPS HOMEPORTED IN HAMPTON ROADS.

10. REQUEST SHORE STATIONS PROVIDE A FACILITY SPILL POC OR FIC POC, ALONG WITH PHONE NUMBER AND E-MAIL ADDRESS TO COMNAVREG MIDLANT. POC IS MAUREEN CONNORS, REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP, (757) 444-3009 EXT 385, CONNORSM@PWCNORVA.NAVY.MIL. COMMENTS OR FEEDBACK ON NOSC SERVICES ARE ENCOURAGED.//

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